29. 1305
5m
46, NO 2

STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION
FEB 20 1995
MONTANA STATE LIBRARY
1515 E. 6th AVE.
HELENA, MONTANA

Montana State Library
3 0864 1006 2121 1

Montana and the Sky

MDT Department of Transportation – Aeronautics Division Vol. 46 No. 2 February 1995

Montana Loses an Aviation Friend

Herbert Duane "Herb" Sammons, 67, passed away December 10, 1994, at Glacier County Medical Center after a long illness with cancer.

Sammons was born March 15, 1927, in Sunburst to Duane and Florence Sammons. The family moved to Cut Bank in 1935, where he lived the rest of his life. He graduated from CBHS in 1945 and then served in the U.S. Army until his discharge in December 1946. He married Phyllis Vogt in St. Paul, MN in 1949.

He began farming for himself in 1947, developing many additional acres as the years passed. He built a grain elevator in 1961 for marketing his own grain. He also owned and operated the Glacier Motor Hotel for ten years. He was a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church and the Cut Bank Elk's Club.

Sammons began his flying career in 1956, taking his lessons and getting his private pilot's license using his brother Chet's airplane. In 1964, he added his instrument rating to his license. He used his plane extensively on the farm, but also added travel, flying mercy flights, search and rescue missions (he was Search & Rescue Coordinator for Glacier, Toole and Liberty counties for 25 years). Herb always flew the kind of planes that were suited for search and rescue use. He was an outstanding mountain pilot. He knew the country as well as or better than anybody. He provided many school children with their first airplane ride and logged over 7,500 hours.

Next to farming, aviation was his love. He was a member of AOPA; member of the Montana Pilots Association since 1957 and a past president; the Cut Bank Hangar of MPA; the Montana Flying Farmers since 1957 and a past president; and he served eight years on the Montana Aeronautics Board with four years as chairman. In 1990, he was honored by the Federal Aviation Administration and the AOPA for his many years of dedicated service and his outstanding contributions to general aviation in Montana.

Herb was a big supporter of keeping the wilderness airstrip at Schafer Meadows open when the Bob Marshall was declared a wilderness area. He was jokingly referred to as "Mr. Schafer."

As a tribute to Herb, area pilots Mike Ferguson, Jerry Swenson, Don Bradley, Leif Torgerson, Norm Eberhardt and Lanny Hanson conducted a "Fly Away." An old military ritual whereas planes fly in formation and one flies off to the west to signify the lost comrade.

Herb was a very kind man who was generous with both his time and his resources. He will be sadly missed by people in the aviation community across the state.

Survivors are his wife Phyllis of Cut Bank; daughters Pat Clark of Casper, WY; Judy Moats of Belgrade; Gail Sammons of Stillwater, OK; son, Roger Sammons of Cut Bank, two brothers, Chet Sammons of Cut Bank and Ken Sammons of Tacoma, WA; six grandchildren; one great grandson, nephews and nieces.

See photos on page 4.

Herb receives awards from AOPA and the FAA for his contributions to Montana aviation at Aviation Conference in 1988.

Thank You

We want to thank the pilots throughout the state for their cards, phone calls, flowers, thoughts and prayers during this time of sorrow in the passing of Herb. Thanks for the pilots and planes who flew in the "Fly Away" tribute. It was the family's final good-bye to Herb. God bless each and everyone of you.

Phyllis Sammons and family

Administrator's Column

Condolences: Montana lost one of their greatest supporters of general aviation when Herb "Herbie" Sammons "went west" after courageously fighting a long, losing battle to cancer. We have written more about Herbie in this publication, however, I wanted to extend sincere condolences to Phyllis and the entire Sammons family on behalf of the Montana Aeronautics Board, Division, and the entire Montana aviation community.

* * * * * * * * * * *

Drug Testing Requirements Lowered: The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) has issued a final rule which will allow the FAA to lower the random drug testing rate from 50% down to 25%. Although this is a step in the right direction, the aviation industry had hoped that it would be lowered down to 10%. The industry-wide positive rate was less than 1% for the past four years.

* * * * * * * * * * *

More Flight Service Station Cuts: Do you remember the great promise made by the FAA when proposing their Flight Service Station consolidations? The promise was "EQUAL TO OR BETTER SERVICE". You may also remember that Congress mandated that certain "Auxiliary Flight Service Stations" would be retained. Twenty six were to be permanent and five would be seasonal. One of these stations is or may be I should say the Bozeman Flight Service Station which was designated to be permanent. Since that time the BZN FSS has seen gradual cuts in staffing as well as hours of operation and now they (FAA) have advised the Bozeman Airport that due to further staffing cuts the reduced operational hours will become permanent. So, it looks like the BZN FSS will only be open during the daytime. The new Automated Weather Observation System (ASOS) installed at Bozeman, like many others, has not yet been commissioned so until this happens there will be a gap in obtaining critical weather information at Bozeman. "EQUAL TO OR BETTER SERVICE—OR ANOTHER FAA BROKEN PROMISE"??????????????

Cessna Announces Plans for New Factory: Cessna Aircraft has selected Independence, Kansas for their new single engine aircraft manufacturing plan. Cessna Chairman Russ Meyer announced that they plan their groundbreaking to take place sometime in April 1995. Cessna had considered five other Kansas communities — those being Emporia, Hays, Manhattan, and Pittsburg. Cessna will manufacture 172, 182, and 206 model airplanes in this new factory. Cessna is making good on their promise to again manufacturer single engine piston powered aircraft if Congress passed the product liability bill—which they did. The new plan is scheduled for completion in about one year and will employ about 1,000 new jobs.

* * * * * * * * * * *

First Montana IFR Approach Aircraft: Aerotronics Inc. of Billings received the first GPS IFR approach approval for an aircraft in Montana on February 2, 1995. After extensive ground and flight testing, Tom Harris, Avionics Inspector, of the Helena FAA Flight Standards District Office signed the approval for the Cessna 310 owned by Dallas Aero of Poplar, Montana. Congratulations Aerotronics, FAA, and Dallas Aero.

* * * * * * * * * * *

AM Weather Discontinues: We have been advised that the **AOPA AIR SAFETY FOUNDATION** sponsored AM Aviation weather program aired on Public Broadcasting TV is soon to terminate. If you have any concern over this, you should contact AOPA at 1-800-USA-AOPA.

continued on page 5

Montana and the Sky
Department of Transportation
Marc Racicot, Governor
Marv Dye, Director

Official monthly publication
of the
Aeronautics Division
Telephone 444-2506
2630 Airport Road
Helena, Montana 59604
Michael D. Ferguson
Administrator

Aeronautics Board
Ron Mercer, Chairman
Byron Bayers, Member
Fred Booth, Member
Joel Fenger, Member
JoAnn Eisenzimer, Member
Leland Ford, Member
Douglas Freeman, Member
Robert Hector, Member
Arnie Lindberg, Member

Montana and the Sky is published monthly
in the interest of aviation in the
State of Montana.
Third Class postage paid at
Helena, Montana 59604

Subscription: $5 per year
Editor: Debbie Alke
Editorial Assistance:
Q Communications Group

New Aeronautics Board Members

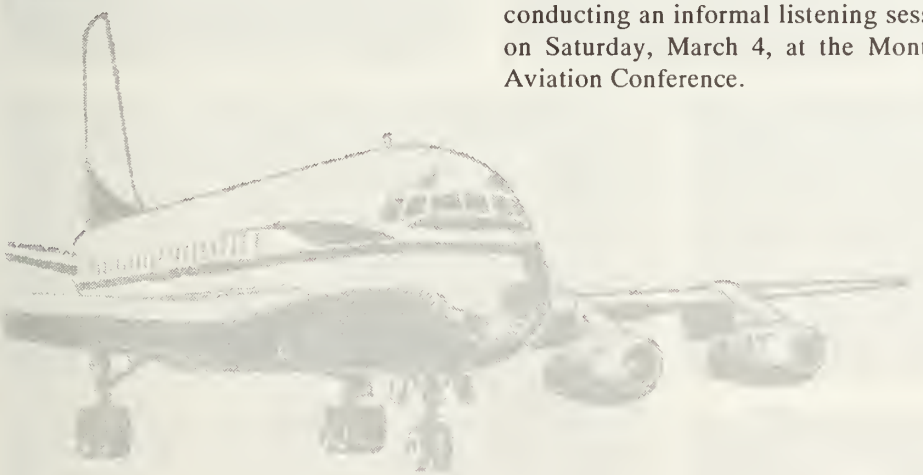
Governor Marc Racicot appointed the following to the Montana Aeronautics Board:

JoAnn Eisenzimer—Cascade, MT, has been appointed as the aviation education representative to the Board. JoAnn is currently working on her doctorate degree in aerospace education. She is a twenty-five year veteran of education in Montana, having integrated aerospace education into her classroom. She has taught graduate-level aerospace education workshops for the Montana university system and the United States Space Foundation. JoAnn completed a National Science Foundation - United States Space Foundation Holt, Rinehart & Winston Triad Project developing innovative science curriculum. She was the 1988 U.S. West Outstanding Teacher of the Year and has won numerous national awards. She served as Assistant Director for the United States Space Foundation and Director for the Space Discovery Adventure workshops. She is a private pilot, currently retired and ranches at Cascade.

Arnie Lindberg—of Cut Bank, MT, has been appointed as the fixed base operator representative to the Board. Arnie of Cut Bank Aviation has had a long career in aviation, spanning back to 1957 when he worked at the Cut Bank Airport for area spray pilot, Chet Severson. Lindberg and his son, Swede, have run Cut Bank Aviation since 1987 and handle the airport management. Prior to this job, Lindberg started a spraying and airplane maintenance business in 1975, which he ran out of his home north of Cut Bank. He received his mechanics training at Helena Vo-Tech. In the late 1950s and early 1960s, Lindberg also worked for Ora Lohse of Valier in spraying and hail suppression. Hail suppression, then a popular meteorological process, is the technology of seeding clouds with silver iodide to turn hail into rain, smaller hail or slush before it hits the ground.

Both JoAnn and Arnie will serve four year terms, to January 1, 1999.

The Montana Aeronautics Board will be conducting an informal listening session on Saturday, March 4, at the Montana Aviation Conference.



Calendar

February 4 - 5 —Flight Instructor Refresher Clinic, Helena.

February 11 - 12— CAP SLS, CLC, CLS Courses, Billings, call 668-7785.

February 17 - 19 — Winter Survival Clinic, Helena/Lincoln.

February 25 — CAP Mission Pilot Flight Clinic, Missoula, call 543-3223.

March 1 - 4 — Montana Aviation Conference, Kalispell.

March 5 — INAC Board of Directors Meeting, Kalispell.

March 5 - 8— Upper Midwest Aviation Symposium, Bismarck, North Dakota.

March 25 —Beartooth Composite Squadron Cadet Orientation Flights, Laurel Airport, call 238-7405.

June 24 — Plains Fly-in and Air Show, contact Randy Garrison at 826-3605.

July 5 - 8 — Ercoupe Annual Convention, Kalispell, MT.

July 9 - 15 — 27th Annual International Cessna Association Convention. Kalispell, MT. Ken Morrow 208-466-1793 or Terry Westphal 406-257-4004.

EAA Sport Aviation Art Competition

Entries are now being accepted for the 19th annual EAA Sport Aviation Art Competition. In 1994, more than 160 entries from throughout North America and overseas were submitted. The top award winners form the nucleus of an annual exhibit of more than 40 works on display in the Gorman Art Gallery, part of the EAA Air Adventure Museum in Oshkosh, WI.

This year's competition features "People and Aviation." Work executed in any two-dimensional media except photography is eligible for the competition. Entries should have aviation as a theme.

The competition also features a special division for artists under 16 years of age.

The entry deadline for both divisions is April 28, 1995. Artists are encouraged to obtain a complete set of rules before submitting entries. Complete guidelines are available by writing to: Joan Mueller, EAA Sport Aviation Art Competition, P.O. Box 3065, Oshkosh, WI 54903-3065, or by calling (414) 426-4877.

CAP Holds Cadet Orientation Flights at Laurel Airport

CAP's Beartooth Composite Squadron which operates in the Yellowstone County area held Cadet Orientation Flights, December 17, at the Laurel Municipal Airport. This cadet orientation flight program is part of each cadet's basic aviation education and consists of five flights. Each flight focuses on a different subject of importance to general aviation such as preflight preparations, weather briefings, and dead reckoning navigation.

Future orientation flights are planned about every two months, with the next scheduled for Saturday, March 25. The CAP cadet program is an Air Force Junior ROTC equivalent program actively sponsored by the Air Force and managed by CAP members. For further information write to Beartooth Composite Squadron, ATTN: Cadet Programs, P.O. Box 386, Fromberg, MT 59029.

MEMORIES... Herbert "Herbie" Sammons

Campfire singing and playing the harmonica were favorite ways to pass time at Schafer Meadows.

Herb (below) helps Don Smith replace a windsock at Schafer Meadows.

Herbie hugging his favorite nurse Bernie Mundt at Schafer Meadows.

Herbie, kneeling before newly-crowned Flying Farmer Queen Phyllis (wife), accepts his new duties as prince consort.

Herb and U.S. Senator John Warner visit at Schafer Meadows, July 1992.

TURNER M. GAUNTT, JR. SPEAKS AT CONFERENCE

Turner M. Gauntt, Jr. will be the featured speaker at the awards luncheon on Saturday, March 4 during the annual Aviation Conference. He graduated from West Point in 1975 with a Bachelor of Science Degree and a commission in the U.S. Air Force. He entered pilot training in August 1957 and received instruction in the T-34 and T-28 at the Primary Training Base of Hondo, TX. Then he went to Enid, OK for basic training in the T-33 and received his wings in July of 1958. He then went to McConnel AFB at Wichita, KS for copilot training in the B47 and then was transferred to Lincoln, NE where he spent the next 4 years flying B47s.

After Lincoln, he was trained in the F102 and B58 Hustler and on October 12, 1964, he completed his first supersonic flight exceeding twice the speed of sound and joined General Dynamics Mach 2 Club. The results of landing a burning B58 ended his flying career with the Air Force. After extensive medical testing, he regained his FAA not restricted first class medical certificate which he maintains today.

With this in hand, Turner joined Braniff International on July 5th, 1966. During his 23 years with Braniff, Turner flew the Convair 340, BAC 111, Boeing 707, Boeing 727, and Boeing 737. He served as a check airman on the 737 and the 727. After the demise of Braniff, Turner then joined Airline Crew Training as an instructor on the Boeing 737. He is still with them and currently the Director of Standards and a School Designated FAA Examiner. Turner holds ratings on the Boeing 737, Boeing 727, Boeing 747, and the Falcon 50, total flying and instructing time exceeds 25,000 hours.

More Administator's

Good News!!!: House Bill 353 would have exempted a Montana refinery of the 1¢ per gallon tax on JP4 and JP8 jet fuel sold to the military. This tax has been in effect since the inception of the Aeronautics Commission (now Division) in 1945. This fuel is already exempt from paying 2¢ per gallon as is the passenger air carriers. A strong opposition lobby headed by the Montana Pilots Association and joined by the Association of Montana Aerial Applicators, Montana Airport Managers Association, Montana Flying Farmers, Montana Association of County Commissioners, and individuals worked together to successfully get the bill killed. Had this bill passed, it would have had a devastating effect on the Aeronautics programs and staff. On behalf of the Aeronautics Board and the Division, I would like to say a BIG THANK YOU to all who took the time to contact their legislators and travel to Helena to testify before the Taxation Committee.

Just A Reminder

A research method class consisting of Erika Dykstra, Tiffany McQuirk, Becky Roth, Sarah Shipp, Todd Smith, and Nancy Trumbull at the University of Montana will be conducting a survey of all the pilots in Montana regarding the proposed restructuring of the FAA. Your response to this short survey would be greatly appreciated as it will better help us to assess pilot attitudes toward the proposed changes.

Pan Am Update

By: James Greil
Aviation Support Officer

PAN AM is a modem-accessed weather service available free of charge to all Montana pilots. Montana Aeronautics has two data base units located in Helena and Miles City. The Helena number is 449-6416 and the Miles City number is 232-9623. If you wish graphically displayed charts via modem as well, you will require PAN AM software which is available through the Division or PAN AM.

As of January 1, 1995, PAN AM has lowered the price of the WeatherModem+, for sponsors like Montana Aeronautics, to $49 per unit. Additionally, the Database Maintenance Service price has changed to $89 per year. The cost of the software and the first year of Database Management Service is $99. Previously both the software and the Database Service were both $195. Since this is such a dramatic drop in prices, PAN AM believes that this will cause a large increase in usage.

The Division has received several calls from pilots who are unable to properly log on to the PAN AM system. Now would be a good time to remind you of some useful tips to remedy this problem. In dealing with your modem configuration, remember to set your parameters to: 8 data bits; 1 stop bit; parity none. If unable to receive transmission at 2400 bps, try using 1200 bps or less. Most importantly, if using a high speed, high compression modem, (i.e. 14,000 bps, etc...), even if you set the bps at 1200, your modems error control mode must be turned off using your communications software. If this is not done, your modem will still try to compress the information, and this is not compatible with the PAN AM system since PAN AM uses its own compression in its transmission.

Please feel free to contact the Division for any help regarding the PAN AM system. If you require additional assistance, contact PAN AM at 1-800-367-6602. If wishing to acquire PAN AM software, write to the Division for a brochure or write to PAN AM at: PAN AM Systems, Inc., 6300 34th Ave. South, Minneapolis, MN 55450.

Conference Plans Finalized

If you have not registered for the 1995 Montana Aviation Conference you are urged to fill out the registration form on the adjacent page and return it to the Division as soon as possible.

The conference will be held March 1-4, 1995, at the Outlaw Inn at Kalispell. This year's sponsors are the Montana Aviation Trades Association, Montana Pilots Association, Montana Airport Managers Association, Experimental Aircraft Association and the Montana Aeronautics Division.

The conference is sure to be another superb Montana aviation event complete with informative, educational sessions. Sessions include: an FAA Listening Session; Aeronautics Board Listening Session; Safety Has No Boundaries; History of Air Refueling and Air Refueling Today; Residential Airparks; Seaplane Flying in MT and British Columbia; Far East Russia Fishing Expedition; GPS Update; WWII Glider Instructor Program; WWII Marine Corps Aviation; Antique/Classic Restoration and the Nineties Restorer; Aviation Safety Is No Accident; How to use your head when you navigate; and much more.

Montana's own Delmar Benjamin will be on-hand to discuss the airshow and airplane business. Delmar's Gee Bee will also be on display. In addition, other aircraft can be viewed at Strand Aviation on the Kalispell City Airport (directly across the street from the Outlaw Inn) on Saturday.

The Aircraft Mechanics Refresher and Ag Operators Refresher Seminars will be held in conjunction with the Conference.

A Flying Companion Seminar for non-pilots only will be conducted by the Montana 99's on Friday morning. Friday afternoon a special spouse/guest program is scheduled.

Friday will again feature an aviation/aerospace career awareness program for students of junior and senior high school age.

Exhibitors from all over the country will reserve booth space for the trade show with thousand s of dollars worth of door prizes to be given away.

Free ski gear is being offered through Martin Hale to anyone registered for the conference and wishing to ski at Big Mountain. Information will be available at the registration desk.

For those interested, Sunday morning will feature a tour to see many interesting aircraft at Montanair. Sign-up will be conducted at registration.

Registration fees are $30 for an individual and $40 for a family. This allows entrance into all sessions and includes drink tickets for a hospitality hour and a luncheon on Friday.

Meal tickets are separate from registration and must be reserved no later than 48 hours in advance of each meal. Tickets for the kick-off luncheon must be reserved through preregistration.

Room for the conference have been blocked at the Outlaw Inn (755-6100); Aero Inn (755-3798); Diamond Lils (752-3467); Super 8 (755-1888); Motel 6 (752-6355); and Ramada Inn (857-2200).

Make plans now to attend!

Saturday evening's banquet will feature the DIAMOND K WRANGLERS from Columbia Falls, MT. You will be entertained with a hand-slappin', foot-stomppin' floor show, sure to be enjoyed by all. The banquet speaker will be Victor Belenko, the Russian MIG pilot, who defected from Russia in 1976.

THE DIAMOND K
WRANGLERS
MISS CONNIE
"Queen of the Cowgirl Fiddlers"
From the heart of the Flathead Valley to the sagebrush of Alzada, ya' just won't find any better Western entertainment than the
DIAMOND K WRANGLERS
ROCKIN' RANDE
"The Voice of the Prarie"
Playing an assortment of authentic cowboy with songs like "Cool Water" and "Tumbling Tumbleweeds". Their intricately blended harmonies and superb musicianship will leave you wishing you were "Home on the Range" and "Back in the Saddle Again".
The DIAMOND K WRANGLERS are the perfect answer to the question;"What can we do different for entertainment this year?" for your party, convention or banquet.
DIAMOND JEFF
" The Gem of the Show"
JUMPIN' JACK
"Banjonist Extrordinaire"

1995 Montana Aviation Conference Tentative Schedule

Wednesday, March 1

Morning
- Aerial Applicators Registration/ Seminar

Afternoon
- Booth Set-up
- Aerial Applicators Lunch/Seminar

Evening
- Aerial Applicators Dinner

Thursday, March 2

Morning
- Exhibitor Meeting
- Mechanics Seminar
- MATA Business Meeting
- Concurrent Sessions

Luncheon
- Penn Storh, Evergreen Int'l
- Spruce Goose Update

Afternoon
- Mechanics Seminar
- Concurrent Sessions
- FAA Q&A Session

Evening
- Dr. Jerry Cockrell

Friday, March 3

Morning
- Mechanics Seminar
- Concurrent Sessions
- Education Session
- MFF Business Meeting
- MAMA Membership Meeting
- Flying Companion Seminar

Luncheon
- Held in Exhibit Area, free to registrants
- Door Prizes

Afternoon
- Mechanics Seminar
- Education Session
- Concurrent Sessions
- Spouse/Guest Program
- MAAA Business Meeting
- 99's Business Meeting

Evening
- Hospitality Hour in Exhibit Area

Saturday, March 4

Morning
- EAA Business Meeting
- Montana Seaplane Pilots Meeting
- MPA Business Meeting
- NWAAAE Board Meeting
- Concurrent Sessions

Awards Luncheon
- Speaker: Turner Gauntt

Afternoon
- Concurrent Sessions
- Aeronautics Board Q&A Session
- AOM Meeting

Evening
- Banquet Speaker: Victor Belenko
- Entertainment: Diamond K. Wranglers

Sunday, March 5

Morning

International Northwest Aviation Council (INAC) Board Meeting
Aeronautics Board Meeting

*** Tour to see many interesting aircraft at Montanair. Sign-up at registration desk.**

The exhibit area will open Thursday morning, March 2 at 10:00 am and will be open at various times during the Conference through Saturday afternoon. All coffee breaks and Friday's lunch and hospitality hour will be held in the exhibit area.

MONTANA AVIATION CONFERENCE – REGISTRATION – MARCH 1–4, 1995

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

MAIL TO: Montana Aviation Conference ■ P.O. Box 5178 ■ Helena, MT 59604

NAME(S) OF PARTICIPANT(S) (for name tags) _____

_____

ADDRESS_____ PHONE_____

YOUR ORGANIZATION AFFILIATION:
(choose one only for name tag)

- ☐ MPA ☐ MATA
- ☐ MFF ☐ MAMA
- ☐ 99S ☐ MAAA
- ☐ EAA ☐ AMAA
- ☐ CAP ☐ Other

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO MONTANA AVIATION CONFERENCE

PLEASE MAKE THE FOLLOWING RESERVATIONS
NOTE: Meal tickets must be purchased 24 hours in advance.

		ENCLOSED
	Reg. Fee___ @$30/person	$_____
	___ @$40/family	$_____
*	Thurs. Luncheon ___ @$9	$_____
	Fri._____ @FREE	$_____
	Sat._____ @$10	$_____
	Sat. Banquet ___ @$21	$_____

*RESERVATION MUST BE MADE PRIOR TO CONFERENCE FOR THURSDAY LUNCHEON. REFUNDS MUST BE REQUESTED BY MARCH 17, 1994—NO EXCEPTIONs. **FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL (406) 444-2506**

FAA Issues Certificates

Private

Tommy Carlson	Miles City
Clifton Reed	Corvallis

Commercial

John Shoal	Columbia Falls

Aero Tow

Roger Munro	Missoula

ATP

Roger Muchmore	Billings

Multi-engine

Ruthmary Lovitt	Billings

Instrument Helicopter

Arland Wass	Belgrade

CFI Renew

Jon Albertson	Plentywood
Jeffrey Edes	Roundup
James Kelly	Billings
Thomas Kiefer	Cutbank
Dewin Madill	Bozeman
Michael McGowan	Missoula
Darrin Pluhar	Angela
Stanley Wiatr	Billings

Ennis NDB

By: Mike Rogan

Aviation Support Officer

The Ennis Non Directional Beacon was commissioned on January 10, 1995. Our Southern Avionics Transmitter puts out 100 watts, with an identifier of EKS, on a frequency of 286 Khz. On your next flight through southwest Montana, please tune in and let us know how it works.

The Department of Transportation attempts to provide reasonable accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with a person from participating in any service, program or activity of the Department. Alternative accessible formats of this document will be provided upon request. For further information, call 406- 444-2506 or TDD 406-444-7696.

Thirty-two hundred copies of this public document were produced at an estimated cost of 37¢ each, for a total cost of $1,210. This includes $60 for production, $526 for postage and $624 for printing.

February 1995

Bulk Rate
Postage Paid at
Helena, MT 59620
Permit No. 141

PO Box 5178
Helena, Montana 59604